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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT,  
FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2004

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION

#### HEADLINES

##### MASS APPEAL

Karamanlis can't escape Lucerne talks - Hurriyet  
Denktas: Lucerne talks actually a 'funeral service' -  
Milliyet  
Annan urges Denktas to keep promise - Milliyet  
Bin-Ladin's Deputy Zawahiri Under Siege - Sabah  
Serbs go wild - Turkiye  
31 dead in Kosovo - Hurriyet  
New bloodbath in the Balkans - Aksam  
Terrorists prefer Bush over Kerry - Hurriyet  
Bush al-Qaeda's favorite - Aksam  
Evangelist Bush Spreading his faith in Baghdad - Sabah

##### OPINION MAKERS

Terror Comes to Spain - Cumhuriyet  
Iraq war anniversary: Occupation front disintegrating -  
Cumhuriyet  
Washington warns Damascus not to pressure Kurds - Cumhuriyet  
US support for Syrian Kurds - Yeni Safak  
Al-Qaeda expands target country list - Cumhuriyet  
European Muslims timid after Madrid bombings - Zaman  
Bombs again target Iraqi civilians - Zaman  
Amnesty International: 10,000 civilians killed in Iraq -  
Yeni Safak  
Kerry: Bush's Iraq policy caused allies to Jump Ship - Yeni  
Safak

#### BRIEFING

Cyprus: Denktas reportedly complained that the Greek  
Cypriots are leaving no room for bargaining in the ongoing  
Cyprus negotiations. The UN-sponsored talks have become a  
'funeral service' for burial of Turkish Cypriots, Denktas  
lamented. Denktas said he resented the fact that the  
Republic of Cyprus, founded in 1960, will join the European  
family on May 1, and that the EU is now calling on the  
Turkish Cypriots to join that accession. The EU views south  
Cyprus as representative of the whole island, and wants the  
Turkish Cypriots to become a part of the Greek state,  
Denktas said. "Aksam" expects Denktas to resign his  
position as negotiator before April 1 and to launch a public  
campaign against the Annan Plan. Papers report that Ankara  
and Athens have agreed to attend the Lucerne talks at the  
Prime Minister level. The GOT is still trying to convince  
Denktas to attend the negotiations in Lucerne.

AKP votes on the rise: A poll by the respected polling  
agency A and G in advance of the March 28 local elections  
indicates that the ruling AK Party will obtain more than 50  
percent of the vote in both Istanbul and Ankara. AKP  
candidates are predicted to get an average 56.7 percent of  
votes cast in municipal elections in Istanbul, Ankara and  
Izmir. The survey suggests, however, that the opposition  
CHP is likely to hold off the AKP challenge to its secular  
stronghold in Izmir. If general elections were to be held  
today, the survey reports, the AK Party would receive 58.2  
percent to CHP's 19.1 percent of votes in the three major  
Turkish cities. The opposition Republican People's Party  
(CHP) has lost the support of much of its base, while the AK  
Party has roughly doubled its strength since the November 3,  
2002 general elections. In a hypothetical general election,  
ANAP, DSP, MHP, DYP and Cem Uzan's Genc Party (GP) would

fall short of the 10 percent threshold required to gain seats in parliament.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Campaign against terrorism

"Terror and Moderate Islam"

Ahmet Tasgetiren commented in the Islamist Yeni Safak (3/19): "The King of Jordan has made a plea to the Muslims by suggesting that moderate Muslims should stand against the fanatics. This approach, in fact, has been circulating within the Islamic world for quite some time, and it has been gaining support. There is another speculation which considers the Greater Middle East project as an initiative to create an internal war in the Islamic world; i.e. a conflict between moderate Islam and radical Islam. . It goes without saying that both Europe and the US will gladly accept resistance against the fundamentalist version of Islam. Yet there are some points which need clarification: What are the possible ways to fulfill the concept of 'moderate Islam' so that the Western world will be satisfied? What are the ways to create a moderate Islam which can be acceptable to both the vast Islamic geography and the US and EU? . Let's look at the results of a recent survey by an American company. The PEW opinion poll results clearly indicate an ongoing mistrust about US intentions in the Islamic world. The general perception is that the US goals are not really freedom and democracy, but about oil and domination. It is true that Islam is a religion of peace, and that Islam envisions a peaceful world. But the Islamic world is under severe outside pressure, and we should think about the psychology of those who are being pushed around. . I agree with the need to deepen the roots of moderate Islam, but not through a US filter. Putting Islam in the proper context must be done within Islam itself and must fit the priorities of the Islamic world."

EDELMAN